

Dryas drummondii Richards. ex Hook.
yellow mountain-avens
Rosaceae (Rose Family)

Status: State Sensitive
Rank: G5S2

General Description: Adapted from Hitchcock et al. (1961): Prostrate shrubs with usually freely rooting woody branches, often forming large patches. Leaf blades oblong-elliptic to somewhat obovate, $\frac{2}{3}$ to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch long, up to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch broad, more or less cuneate at base, coarsely once or twice crenate-serrate, dark green and glabrous to (more commonly) sparsely to moderately tomentose on the upper surface, white tomentose beneath. Scapes up to 8 inches tall, more or less tomentose, sparingly stipitate-glandular near the tip. Calyx strongly stipitate glandular, the hypanthium strongly villous within, the lobes ovate, $1\frac{2}{3}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long. Petals pale to rather deep yellow, ascending (rather than spreading) in flower, elliptic to nearly obovate, $\frac{1}{3}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long, the outer ones, and sometimes all, usually stipitate-glandular and often also somewhat tomentose in a median line. Filaments hairy, at least near their base. Styles often yellow plumose.

Identification Tips: *Dryas drummondii* can be separated from other species of *Dryas* by flower color. *D. drummondii* has yellow flowers and the other species of *Dryas* within its range have white or cream flowers. In addition, the leaves of *D. drummondii* have cuneate bases and the other species have cordate or rounded bases.

Phenology: Flowers May through early July.

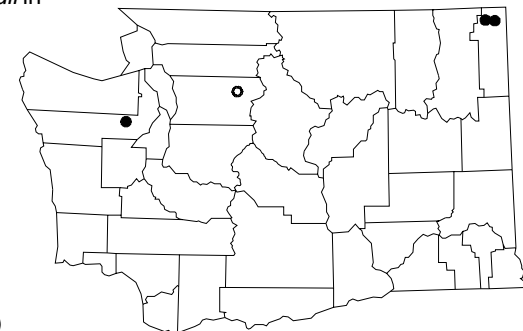
Range: Occurs from Alaska to southern British Columbia and the Rocky Mountains to Montana, northeast Oregon, east across Canada to the St. Lawrence River. Peripheral in Washington; currently known from Pend Oreille and Jefferson counties in the Okanogan Highlands and Olympic Peninsula and Southwest Washington physiographic provinces, and a historical record from Snohomish County in the Western Cascades physiographic province.

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Known distribution of
Dryas drummondii in
Washington



● Current (1980+)
○ Historic (older than 1980)

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Habitat: In crevices of steep, rocky, dry cliffs, and on limestone rock along rivers. In the Olympic Mountains, the species occurs with *Viola flettii*, *Campanula piperi*, *Erigeron compositus*, *Antennaria rosea*, *Phlox hendersonii*, *Saxifraga bronchialis*, and *Potentilla fruticosa*. In Pend Oreille County, the associated species include *Campanula rotundifolia* and *Penstemon fruticosus*. Elevation ranges from 1900 to 6800 feet.

Ecology: *Dryas drummondii* occurs in fairly harsh environments. The habitats in which it is found are relatively inaccessible. The species can apparently be propagated by layering or by cuttings.

State Status Comments: The species is peripheral in Washington. There are only a few extant occurrences.

Inventory Needs: Additional inventory is needed throughout the state.

Threats and Management Concerns: There are few threats to this taxon due to the nature of its habitat (cliffs).

References:

Hitchcock, C. L., A. Cronquist, M. Ownbey, and J.W. Thompson. 1961. *Vascular Plants of the Pacific Northwest, Part 3: Saxifragaceae to Ericaceae*. University of Washington Press, Seattle. 614 pp.